

2300 Lake Elmo Drive
Billings, MT 59105

DECISION NOTICE FOR: Becker Pond

May 7, 2002

TO: Environmental Quality Council
Director's Office, Dept. of Environmental Quality
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Director's Office	Lands Section
Parks Division	Design & Construction
Fisheries Division	Legal Unit
Wildlife Division	Regional Supervisors

Montana Historical Society, State Preservation Office
Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon Council
Montana Wildlife Federation
Montana State Library
George Ochenski
Montana Environmental Information Center
Wayne Hirst, Montana State Parks Foundation
Montana Parks Association (land acquisition projects)
Bob Harrington, DNRC Area Manager, Southern Land Office
County Commissioners
Other Local Interested People or Groups

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Description of the Proposed Action

A Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) was completed for a private pond application submitted by Patricia A. Becker. Becker owns a pond located at T2S, R26E, Sec. 26 in Yellowstone County. The pond is located in the Blue Creek Drainage, which feeds into the Yellowstone River, but there is no direct connection between the pond outflow and Blue Creek. The pond would be stocked with rainbow trout or Yellowstone cutthroat trout, possibly followed by a plant of channel catfish.

Public Process and Comment

A draft EA was completed and released for a 30-day public comment period with comments accepted through February 15, 2002. No public comments were received during this comment period.

Decision

Based on the analysis in the Environmental Assessment and the applicable laws, regulations and policies, I have determined that this action will not have a significant effect on the natural or human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared.

It is my decision to implement the proposed action, and proceed with issuing this pond permit. By notification of this Decision Notice, the draft EA is hereby made the final EA without any modifications or additions. The final EA may be viewed at or obtained from Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks at 2300 Lake Elmo Drive, Billings, MT 59105. Please direct any further requests or questions to Harvey Nyberg, Region 5 Supervisor, or Ken Frazer, Region 5 Regional Fisheries Biologist.

Sincerely,

Harvey E. Nyberg
Regional Supervisor